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**F A X C O V E R**

**Date** Wednesday, August 18, 2004 **Number of pages (Including cover):** 2

**To** Examiner Karen A. Canella

**Company** USPTO

**Your File #** App. No. 09/714,865

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**Our File #** B0801.70195US00

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**MESSAGE:**

Dear Examiner Canella,

As I mentioned in my voice mail message, I am sending you a copy of the claims to ensure that we both have the same final set of allowable claims. I have incorporated the changes from the Examiner's amendment that you faxed to me this morning into this final version. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you again for your help.

MaryDilys

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B0801.70195US00

Allowed Claims in 09/714,865

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) nucleic acid molecules which hybridize under stringent conditions to a molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1 and which code for a human *vasa* polypeptide, wherein the stringent conditions are: (1) hybridization at 65°C in hybridization buffer (3.5 x SSC, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% polyvinyl pyrrolidone, 0.02% Bovine Serum Albumin, 2.5mM NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>(pH7), 0.5% SDS, 2mM EDTA), wherein SSC is 0.15M sodium chloride/0.015M sodium citrate, pH7; SDS is sodium dodecyl sulphate; and EDTA is ethylenediaminetetracetic acid, and (2) washing in 2 x SSC at room temperature and washing in 0.1 x SSC/0.1 SDS at 68°C,

(b) nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleic acid molecules of (a) in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, or

(c) full-length complements of (a) or (b).

2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1.

3. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule consists of the nucleotide sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:15.

4-21. (Cancelled).

22. A kit, comprising a package containing an isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

23-88. (Cancelled).

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